



**NIFA Veterinary Medicine
Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)**

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
OMB Information Collection
Approval No.: 0524-0046
Expiration Date: 8/31/2013

Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be completed by the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or his/her designee

Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)

Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each position. See solicitation for number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

Veterinary Shortage ID Code: SC112

Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Note: If this nomination is for a public practice position, please provide the location of the home office or the center of service area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage: SC Pee Dee Region - 9 contiguous counties (Clarendon, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Sumter, & Williamsburg)

(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or Location of Position: Intersection of I-20 & I-95 (Nearest town Florence, SC 29506)

(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty

☐ Type I Shortage: Private Practice

Food Animal Medicine (at least 80 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- ☐ Beef Cattle
- ☐ Dairy Cattle
- ☐ Swine
- ☐ Poultry
- ☐ Small Ruminant
- ☐ Other _____

☒ Type II Shortage: Private Practice – Rural Area

Food Animal Medicine (at least 30 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- ☒ Beef Cattle
- ☒ Dairy Cattle
- ☒ Swine
- ☐ Poultry
- ☒ Small Ruminant
- ☐ Other : _____

☐ Type III Shortage: Public Practice (at least 49 percent time*)

Employer: _____ Position Title: _____

Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas.

- ☐ Food Safety
- ☐ Public Health
- ☐ Epidemiology
- ☐ Other: _____

Please describe the objectives of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

The objectives of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation are to provide food animal services for cattle, small ruminants, & swine in Clarendon, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Sumter, & Williamsburg Counties at 30% minimum time allocation. This area of SC has historically been largely row crops and tobacco. Farmers in this area, especially tobacco farmers, have diversified in recent years into beef cows. Therefore, historically no significant numbers of food animal veterinarians have practiced in this area. 2007 NASS data indicate over 33,000 cattle & calves in this 9 county area in addition to over 122,000 hogs & pigs. As evidenced by a recent extension sponsored workshop on small ruminant health in the area which had nearly 100 farmers request to attend, small ruminant (meat goats) numbers have increased significantly in the area. AVMA data indicate the equivalent of only 0.7 food animal veterinarians in this area after adjusting for % time and removing 100% poultry veterinarians. SC licensed veterinarians list has no veterinarians of any type for Marlboro & Dillon counties. Each of nine counties have rural not in place populations of fewer than 50,000 (7 fewer than 30,000) according to the 2000 Census.

Please describe the activities of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation and being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

A veterinarian meeting this shortage situation would provide veterinary services to the cow-calf and feeder calf producers in this area, helping them design herd health programs for their operations as well as biosecurity procedures for their operations. In addition this veterinarian will provide similar services for small ruminant producers that are a rapidly growing sector in this area. There may be opportunity to work with small scale hog farmers as well. Initially 30% minimum time devoted to food supply veterinary medicine is expected for this area since producers in the area have not been accustomed to having such services available. This position would have the opportunity to provide equine veterinary services to supplement income. Two of the counties, Dillon & Marlboro, have no veterinarians of any kind so this position could fill a need and further supplement income filling some of that void as well. Opportunity also exists to serve small ruminant needs in more populated counties adjoining this area with significant small ruminant numbers and no food supply veterinary services available.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 100 words or less).

Because the small ruminant and cattle numbers in this area are a relatively new phenomenon, there have not been extensive recruitment activities in the past. However, at least one practice in the area has experienced difficulty recruiting new graduates which would offer 30% or more food supply veterinary services due to student debt loan service requirements. The need is demonstrated continually by calls to the State Veterinarian's office and diagnostic lab with requests for veterinary assistance for food animals. We have difficulty coming up with names for them that will consider coming to a farm even for an emergency.

Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 250 words or less).

The area specified for this veterinarian shortage situation has significant populations of beef cows, commercial and backyard swine, and small ruminants with not even 1 full time equivalent veterinarian providing services for them. The production of a safe, wholesome, local food supply for this area in SC is directly impacted by the ability of the producers there to obtain competent and readily available veterinary services. The most recent new graduate to join a practice in this area and offer food supply veterinary services indicates that student loan debt payments are a significant hurdle to overcome if she is to remain in this area and expand the amount for food animal services she provides. The area is poised to continue its growth in cattle numbers, possibly becoming a significant area for forage-fed beef production. Availability of food supply veterinary services is a critical requirement for this growth to be able to occur. There are a significant number of commercial swine operations in the area. Food supply veterinarians are a critical link in emerging and foreign animal disease prevention, detection and eradication. Both state and regional interests will be served by improving the level of food supply veterinarians in this area with benefits accruing to animal, human, and environmental health.

Please indicate whether you consider this situation/position a candidate for a “service in emergency” agreement (limit your response to 100 words or less). Please see solicitations for additional information regarding the obligation of participants who enter into the “Service in Emergency” agreement.

Not required at this time according to instructions.

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Boyd H. Parr

Title: SC State Veterinarian

Organization: Clemson University Livestock Poultry Health
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Telephone Number: (Area code required)

Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OEP, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

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